



Cove Ridge Center Natural Tunnel State Park Duffield, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green** has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, **Virginia Green** encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

Cove Ridge Center

"The Cove Ridge Center is a multipurpose conference facility, providing meeting space and lodging in a beautiful, natural setting."

Green Statement: "As a facility in a state park, we felt it was our responsibility to protect and preserve the natural resources to the best of our ability, while still providing quality service to our visitors."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Conference Centers

☑ This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Conference Centers. Participants self-certify that these activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to **Cove Ridge Center** can expect the following practices:

- ☑ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** All conference centers must provide for recycling at their events. Aluminum can and plastic bottle recycling are a must. Recycling of steel cans, cardboard, office paper, and composting of waste foods are encouraged as well. This facility pledges that they:
- Recycle: aluminum cans, steel cans, plastic, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
 - Clearly marked recycling bins for aluminum, metal and plastic located throughout the center and lodging facilities
 - kitchen (or meetings/events)*
 - Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
 - Purchase locally grown produce and other foods
 - dining room (or meetings/events)*
 - Use water pitches and filtered water to minimize the use of single-use bottles
 - restrooms*
 - Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
 - Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet paper
 - office/purchasing*
 - Use a last-in/first-out inventory & effective labeling systems
 - Make 2-sided copies / printed materials
 - Use electronic correspondence and forms
 - building and grounds*
 - Purchase durable equipment and furniture

- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

☒ **Styrofoam elimination and reduction of disposables.** Virginia Green Conference centers are encouraged to eliminate or minimize the use of Styrofoam-based products and to use alternative disposables that are made of natural products and/or are bio-degradable. This facility pledges that they:

- Use disposable containers that are:
 - Made from bio-based materials
 - Made from recycled content paper
 - Compostable
 - Recyclable

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have:
 - high efficiency dishwashers
 - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
 - low flow toilets
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first) and use microfiber technology mops

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Use compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Use natural lighting
- Purchase EnergyStar-rated computers, copiers, and appliances

☒ **Green Events Package.** Virginia Green conference centers must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided.

For more information on **Cove Ridge Center**, see www.coveridge.com or contact **Cove Ridge Director** at coveridge@dc.virginia.gov or 276-940-2696.

For more information on the *Virginia Green* program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen/homepage.html or go to www.virginiagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green is the Commonwealth’s campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia’s tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

